



CROWN
TECHNOLOGY, LLC

THERMOPLASTIC PAVEMENT MARKING MATERIAL



Transportation Legislation

111th Congress Considers SAFTEA-LU Reauthorization

The 111th Congress will be responsible for the reauthorization of SAFETEA-LU (Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act — A Legacy for Users). Our government leaders will need to keep in mind our country's demand for greater economic accountability, and, at the same time, they must address the fact that the road system in this country has not kept pace with our growing population.

Since 1950, our population has more than doubled from 150 million to over 305 million, with today's vehicles traveling 3 trillion miles as compared to 550 million miles in 1950. Yet during this time, our nation has increased our roads by only 20 percent. In addition, freight movement in the United States has grown in recent decades and is expected to increase by 80 percent by the year 2035.

We are also hoping Congress will include a hard look at the Highway Safety Improvement Program or HSIP. This was a core program in the initial authorization of SAFETEA-LU that focused on measures to reduce the number of fatalities on our roadways. Two low cost safety recommendations by the American Traffic Safety Services Association involve pavement markings.

- 1) Delineation on High Risk Rural Roads with more than a four-inch drop-off. It is estimated that 11,000 Americans suffer injuries each year in crashes related to unsafe pavement edges. Since the cost of correcting these unsafe shoulders would be great, we should use a low cost counter measure to improve these edges with high visibility striping with raised profiles. These types of markings will give audible alerts to drivers.
- 2) Establish a minimum of six (6) inch pavement marking lines for the National Highway System. The Texas Transportation Institute researched the use of wider lines and concluded that the use of such lines would provide improved nighttime driving conditions, benefiting older drivers and improving driver comfort.

This next transportation authorization should span the years 2009 to 2015. Therefore, it is important that Congress passes a bill that will be accountable in the coming years to the transportation industry and the citizens of this country.



Employee Spotlight: John Darville



We are happy to spotlight John Darville in this issue of our company's newsletter. John is a graduate of Gordon Jr. College in Barnesville Ga. He came to Crown in July of 2001 with eight years lab tech experience in the textile industry. John started out in Crown's Quality Control Lab and for the past four years has worked in our Research and Development Lab. Our R&D Lab is vital in testing our raw materials and thermoplastic formulations. John is also a valuable part of Crown because of his work record; he had perfect attendance in 2004.

John is single and in his spare time, he enjoys watching pro wrestling and is an avid video game player.

Can You Hear Me Now? A Traffic Safety Fact

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration or NHTSA published a research note on the Driver's use of electronic devices. According to this report hand held cell phone use was 6% in 2007 compared to 5% in 2006.

Translated, this means that in 2007 at any given daylight hour 1,005,000 vehicles on the road are being driven by someone using a hand-held phone. The NHTSA reports the majority of these drivers were aged 16 to 24.

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